

## Facts About Catching Cold

Modern Medical Science Corrects an Ancient Belief about Exposure.

(From the New York Tribune.)

One of the oldest and most firmly established of popular medical notions is that the most of the acute diseases of the respiratory organs are invariably attributable to exposure of the body to cold. This may partly be accounted for by the initial symptoms. Pneumonia, for instance, is often ushered in with severe rigors; influenza, likewise, frequently begins with shivering; and in the commoner catarrhal inflammations of the nasal mucous membrane a feeling of chilliness is so general that it is usual to speak of "taking a chill" or "catching a cold."

And though it is understood today that in all of these disorders—not excepting cold in the head—bacterial infection always plays an essential part, yet the opinion still prevails, even among experienced clinical observers, that chilling is at least an important factor in a large proportion of cases.

Some justification for this belief may be found in the results of a series of experiments conducted during the last two years by Dr. J. A. Miller and Dr. W. C. Noble at the instance of the New York State Ventilation Commission, and reported in the current "Journal of Experimental Medicine." An organism described as the anaflo bacillus (B. anaflo) was employed for the purpose—an organism capable of producing a true pneumonia but when localized in the upper respiratory passages causing the condition "commonly known as snuffles."

It is impossible to describe in detail the conditions under which the ex-

periments were tried. Let it suffice that rabbits were used in several series of experiments in which high and low temperatures and changes from hot to cold and from cold to hot were tried under a variety of conditions and always with a sufficient number of controls to check the results. The conclusions are set forth as follows:

"1. Respiratory infection of rabbits with bacillus anaflo (snuffles) is favored by chilling the animals after they have been accustomed to heat."

"2. The character of this disease which occurs frequently in rabbits under natural conditions, makes the application of the experimental results to similar respiratory diseases in man less open to objection than in similar experiments with other infections."

"3. The weight of experimental evidence, including our own, does not justify the elimination of exposure to cold as a possible, though secondary, factor in the incidence of acute respiratory disease."

"4. From the limited data of our last two experiments it is suggested that any marked change of temperature predisposes rabbits to this infection, the severity of which varies with the amount of change, and that the change from low to high temperature has an even more marked effect than from high to low."

It will be seen, then, that while there is apparently some justification for the common belief in the effect of exposure to cold, too little attention may have been paid in the past to the possibilities of exposure to heat.

## TOURISTS TO GO TO VALLEY OF MEXICO

When Peace Once More Broods over the Long-Warring Southern Republic.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—When peace once more broods over Mexico and the "See America First" campaign is made to embrace the wonderful scenic beauties of the southern republic one of the most popular resorts for tourists will probably be the "Valley of the Valley," graphically described in a communication from Walter Hough to the National Geographic Society, a part of which is issued in the following bulletin:

"One of the pleasurable experiences among those that delight the traveler in Mexico is a visit to the home of the Aztec lake dwellers. Much of the charm of the great valley of Mexico, where they live, is due to the stretches of water among the trees and verdant fields in a landscape framed by beautiful mountains and bathed with clearest air of heaven."

**Lakes Are Shallow.**  
"Their lakes—Texcoco, Xochimilco, Zumpango, and Chalco—do not reveal themselves except from the high mountains encircling the valley. They are shallow bodies of water in the midst of extensive marshes, unapproachable and lacking the effect of our lakes with their definite shore-lines. For this reason they have never been high-ways of civilized commerce, nor has navigation flourished in their shallow waters; but they were from the mothers of ancient and remarkable states, whose people projected in the fens, dug out canals and developed an indigenous commerce and transportation to the fullest extent."

"Long before Cortez came the Indians of the valley worked in the boggy lake lands and dug canals either and thicker—main canals between the lakes and to the great city of Tenochtitlan and smaller canals between the bays. Through this maze of waterways, then as now, they sent their boats and in the fens built their wretched houses. "Fere Sahagun, the famous chronicler, tells that the City of Mexico is like another Venice and the people themselves are comparable to the Venetians in urbanity and savoir; This was written in the sixteenth century, but in the lapse of several hundred years the city's wonderful water environment has become dry land, and the seeker for lake dwellers will have to look farther afield in the entrancing valley of the sky."

**Way Is An Old Canal.**  
"The way to the present Aztec Venice, which bears the name of Xochimilco 'in the field of flowers,' is through one of these ancient canals—a prehistoric water road from Tenochtitlan to the capital and seat of one of the group of seven Aztec tribes which long ago came from remote Aztlan to the rich valley of Mexico."

"The life on the canal, vivid and picturesque, is as striking now as it was then; it may even be supposed that the change from that time to this has not been very great. It is hard to get a start to the land of the fens in many ways than one—the negotiations for passage in a barge with boatmen who display the characteristics of that tribe known the world over; and the conflicting claims also of all the costumes, incidents, shipping and so forth, of the boating, squirming kaleidoscope canal and shore population on its multifarious quests bewilder the beholder and make him forget he is on a journey to see the lake dwellers in their primitive homes. Tardily, then the barge comes into the river pool in front of the medieval toll-gate fortress, where all shipping must go under a low bridge and where the old-time toll collector, armed with a pike, could threaten the recalcitrant without much effort."

**Vistas of New World.**  
"Beyond the gateway begin more vistas of a new world. On this canal, bordered with trees and spanned with quaint bridges, is a perfect stream of craft, from the slender dug-out chaloupe to the square-bowed flat-boat, hurrying on with everything to feed, repair, and adorn the great city. Lights of all descriptions, but one floats curiously on the small bundles of grass and other green forage for animal feed, the pulque barge, vegetables and flowers. The Indian boatmen clad in white cotton shirt and trousers, are working with a will, sometimes wading in the canal and drawing the heavy-laden boats after them; and, alas! returning to their

paradise, a woman piloting her husband who is the worse for pulque. "Flores and jetsam in the canal are vagrant bulbs and flowers of water hyacinth, a wicked, beautiful plant, whose reproductivity makes men work to keep it down, but here it has met its match and is made to be useful for the Aztecs throw great masses of it upon a strip of bark to the thickness of a foot or more. The water hyacinth is provided with large cellular floats, a natural provision for its dissemination, which has made it an obstruction to navigation in some of our southern rivers."

**Vegetation on Lakes.**  
"Upon this bed of floats the natives spread a layer of muck, dredged from the bottom of the canals. Perhaps before the plant floats have decayed these gardens may drift away should the water rise. Even now portions of the lake on square miles of vegetation cover the surface like the 'sudd' of the Nile, and the canal roads have to be skated at the sides to keep them from disappearing."

"The term 'floating gardens' was properly applied by the early historians of Mexico to masses of water weeds covered with a thin layer of soil, employed by the Mexicans at a period when the fluctuating waters prevented the formation of permanent chinampas, and so in the new world the Indians repeated the famed gardens of the lake of Cashmere."

"The Xochimilcos are expert gardeners and as skillful in their work. Most of their plants are started in seed beds from which they are transplanted to the chinampas, and it is strange to see boat loads of corn sprouts brought to be planted in this manner. Curiously enough, these morass gardens sometimes require irrigation, which is accomplished by throwing on water from the canal with a wooden scoop."

**Children Are Pretty.**  
"It cannot be said that the Xochimilcan man has an open and ingenuous countenance, but it shows force of character and lights up quickly in response to kindness and recognition. The young women have round, often ruddy, but rather expressionless faces; the children are pretty and the older women are better preserved than the women of the Pueblos of the southwestern United States. Both sexes work hard, and where there is such uniformity of poverty the struggle for existence makes life a serious matter and engraves deep lines in the faces of the breadwinners."

"Thus a life is heralded with mourning and a death with rejoicing. "What will be their future when their swamps are drained and their old lake dweller life merged into the humdrum of farmers? If by good fortune they are kept from the deadly effects of alcohol, the chief moloch of Mexican Indian, no doubt they will live happily on the dry lake bottom, as before the days of Montezuma."

**So Decides Fred Roberts, a Light Footed 'Yegg' Who Fell Afoul Robbers.**

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—To those who are so prone as to believe Haas only lived his day in Bagdad, it is known that Fred Roberts, thief, squared himself with his conscience, kept sacred the name of the girl, and took his chances against the years that mildew the walls of the Joliet penitentiary. If you can dream dreams of the forty thieves, though you live in an age of city halls, and of Aladdin, though your lamp be filled with standard oil, be patient; else turn to the market page and read no further."

**Tippy Tete-a-Tete.**  
Fred Roberts is a fifty thief. He is 21, shrewd, attractive, and wicked in his attitude toward individual wealth. In a dancing gathering of his peers on one of those broiling July nights he mentioned casually to his fair tete-

a-tete that the times were not as they had been.

"What," purred the lady fair, with precise enunciation, "might be your lay?"

"Professional pride rode high in the boom of Robert," he answered in murmuring sibilants, "that I'm a smooth yegg."

Those that read the Home Gardener of nights under the old rose shaded lamp will now know that a "yegg" is a person who injects just the proper dose of nitroglycerin around a safe door to tear it gently from its fastenings that he may avoid toiling and spinning. To the loop ferret this is superfluous.

**Milady's Info.**

"Ah," sighed the lady fair.

"Ah," sighed the nimble Roberts.

"The reason I said 'Ah,' pursued the lady, "is because if you want grab a lotta jack why don't you crack the safe where I'm slingin' hash."

"Where might this be?" queried Robert, with mild yet tingling intonation.

"I'm employed," cooed her ladyship, "as a biscuit shooter in Clarke's cafe. In case anybody'd ask you where it was, you wouldn't know what I tell 'em, w'y you might just say it was at 2290 Michigan, on the southwest corner, 't be sure. An' th' safe is behind th' showcases in th' store part."

"If I meet anybody that wants to know," said Roberts, "I'll tell 'em."

"On Sat'd'y 'n' Sund'y," resumed the lady, "we do a h—l of a business. Th' boss don't bank his dough because th' banks is closed."

"Did any one ever mention that you was rather good lookin'?" inquired Roberts, offhand like.

"Quit kiddin'," order Miss So-and-So.

"If anybody was to bust that safe Sunday night they'd git a lotta jack."

**The Key That Always Fits.**

It was about 4 o'clock of the cloudy morning of July 24. Roberts selected a short, powerful Jimmy and eased himself into Clarke's cafe. Noiselessly he crept out of the way of the electric lights in the street and the lamps left in the candy store. In a few tense moments there was one of those muffled roars you read about and Roberts' had 4,180 tucked away and he was ambling nimbly along Dearborn street.

A noise under the window of Mrs. Mary Brown, who lives overhead at Twenty-sixth and Dearborn, caused her to arouse her husband. There were loud calls, the sounds of conflict, and then the pattering footfalls of the chase.

"I looked out the window," said Mrs. Brown, "an' I seen three colored men hippin' it over the back fence. Then I seen another young fellow chasin' 'em. One of the three says, 'Don't go over that fence—they's a dog in there.' An' they didn't go over the fence, because that's my fence, and there sho' is a dog in there."

**Robbed!**

And Mrs. Brown went back to bed about the time that a bedraggled figure entered the Cottage Grove avenue police station. It was Roberts.

"What's up?" demanded the sergeant, who had just finished recording the \$1,180 Clarke restaurant robbery. "Get hit by a piano truck?"

"No," said Roberts, "I been robbed. I was walkin' along Dearborn street when three men jumped out and took my money. I can give their descriptions."

"How much money did they take?"

"They got \$1,180," said Roberts, and then he felt foolish.

He felt foolish because he might just as well have made it \$500 or anything else. Eleven eighty was too close.

"Where'd you get eleven eighty?" demanded the sergeant. "That's just the amount taken from Clarke's cafe!" And then came a sweat that ended with Roberts' coming across.

"Did they take all you had?" asked the sergeant.

"They was some other stuff. I put that in a mail box," he said. He wouldn't say any more.

**Before the Judge.**

Recently Roberts sat before Judge Pam. He had told how he cracked the safe.

"Who told you there was money in there?" asked the judge.

"A girl who works in the cafe," replied Roberts.

"What's her name?"

"Nothin' doin', judge. I couldn't do that."

"Tell me the name of the girl and I'll reduce your sentence by five years."

"I ain't the fellow, judge. You have to look further. I broke the safe and lost the money. But I won't tell the girl's name."

Mr. Clarke spoke up: "I can't have the girl in my place. Will you write her a letter telling her to quit?"

"Yes," said Roberts, "I'll do that if you promise not to prosecute her."

And for this he will have the good wishes of the parlor board after he has served some time.

**Contents of Mail.**

Addendum: When Mr. Clarke opened his mail on July 25, he found \$800 worth of old and rare coins. He has been collecting and \$200 worth of railroad transportation he had bought for a prospective trip. There was a note served.

"I ain't no down mean. I'm just a yegg. You want't these, I don't."

If the girl in Clarke's still is there she has the police of Napoleon, and this is written that she may know that her knight-errant kept the faith and there still is honor among the craft.

**THREE PASTORS SERVE ONE CHURCH FOR 92 YEARS**

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., Sept. 23.—Salen Baptist church, in Caroline county, presents a remarkable case in reference to its pastors. This church has had only three different pastors in the last ninety-two years. All three were of the same name, Andrew Broadus, being father, son and grandson.

Over 1824 the Rev. Andrew Broadus became pastor of that church and served it until his death in 1848, at the age of 78. His son, of the same name, became his successor, and remained pastor of the church for forty-eight years, until 1896, when the infirmities of age led him to resign. His son, the third Andrew Broadus, immediately succeeded him and is now serving his twentieth year in the pastorate. Thus for ninety-two years, father, son and grandson have served the same church.

## SMOKES WHILE THE SURGEONS AMPUTATE LEG

"Smiling Jimmy" Keath Continues His Fight against Physical Disabilities.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23.—The grit of a Spartan and a smile that defies death have smashed through another victory for "Jimmy" Keath, the young Philadelphia physician who has won fame because he refused to quit in a seemingly hopeless battle with fate. Dr. James W. Keath, with a twisted back, that was broken two years ago, with a stump where his left leg was amputated a year later, with a doctor degree, won in spite of untold suffering, has just sacrificed his remaining leg to the surgeon's knife—and is glad of it. "Jimmy" didn't take an anesthetic. He smoked a cigarette while watching the surgeons operate.

"They had to go above the paralyzed part to make the operation effective," he explained, "but for two years that blamed old leg has been in my way and I was mighty glad to see it coming off. When I crawled into bed, there was my paralyzed leg behind me. Somebody had to put it to bed, too. When I crawled into my chair, there was my leg behind again, waiting for somebody to help it along. I would rather take a chance even though it is a slim one. Anything is better than that helpless leg."

With the second amputation, although it leaves him a legless man, "Jimmy" Keath has begun what to him is his greatest fight—the fight which he hopes some day will enable him to walk. The odds are 100 to one against him.

**Thinks He Will Fool Them.**

"The doctors don't seem to think that I will ever be able to swing artificial legs," he said. "They think my stumps will be too weak to carry them." Then he grinned. "But I've fooled them before."

It was in April, 1914, that Keath fell three stories from the window of his fraternity house and broke his back. So one never thought he would live—that is, no one but himself. He had married only a short time before and was determined to practice medicine. He did live, though his left leg had to come off, because it became infected. Both limbs had become paralyzed as the broken back healed.

Racked with pain, bed-ridden, he struggled through his books. Final examinations came and he passed. At commencement he was wheeled by his classmates to the stage of the academy of music and received his diploma as a physician. Then he went to his home at Schaefferville, Pa., to practice, but the pain drove him back to the Jefferson hospital.

**Studied His Own Case.**

Week after week he studied his own case. He would wheel himself about the hospital, medical book in hand, diagnosing himself. Finally he became convinced that his remaining leg should be amputated. Surgeons argued the danger of infection—a real danger he is now facing, and even more serious than the operation itself—but "Jimmy" had his way.

"I had a theory about that leg," he said. "My theory was that if it was amputated, say three-quarters of the way up the thigh, life would return to the stump as it did to the old stump." And he thumped the stump in question up and down under the bed-clothes to emphasize his meaning. "When life returns to this right leg I can get artificial legs. I have been reading about them. They have accomplished wonders with them. I've simply got to get out and work. My Keath has stood by me through thick and thin. She and the baby need me."

**MOOSE GET FOUR VOTES IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—The Progressive party in Illinois is not dead. The canvass of the vote of the state primaries developed a Moose ticket. No Moose party appeared on the ballots, but four men who refused to be delivered wrote out a ticket headed "Progressive," and wrote in a full state ticket and part of a Cook county ticket, and four votes were cast for it, all in Chicago. The ticket will not appear on the November ballots.

**WOULD STOP WEIRD INDIAN SNAKE DANCE**

Government Interference May Halt Big Annual Feature at Reservation.

SANTA FE, N. M., Sept. 23.—That the government, through its Indian agents, is striving to put an end to the weird snake dance held every summer by the Hopi Indians in Arizona, and that this ceremony which annually attracts people from all over the country may not be held next year, is the information brought back from Oraibi, Ariz., by Miss Eve Wentge, of this city.

In order to witness this dance, Miss Wentge traveled on horseback from Holbrook, where she was visiting relatives to Oraibi, on the Hopi Indian reservation, a distance of 145 miles.

"This is a long way to travel to see a dance," she said today in discussing the trip, "especially when the dance last only a half or three-quarters of an hour. But the scenery en route was wonderful, reminding me of the glorious Grand Canyon. One could see so far and the colors of the sky

and earth were so remarkable.

**Tourists' Eyes Bulge.**

"Arrived at Oraibi, we soon realized that the Indian snake dance was well worth traveling many miles to see. There were perhaps 200 tourists who gathered around the Indians and gazed, with bulging eyes, at the weird ceremony about to be enacted with rattlesnakes as the chief objects of admiration. As far as I could ascertain, the Hopis gather their snakes from the mountain side, keeping them hidden until the dance begins and after the ceremony return them to their homes, at all times showing them the greatest reverence."

"One theory is that the Hopis believe in the wisdom and power of a 'great snake' somewhere in the mountains and they wish the little snakes to return to the 'tata' snake and carry the glad tidings of how well they were treated. Judging by what we saw at the dance the little snakes—they are husky looking rattlers quite as long as any one would care to encounter—do not reciprocate in this matter of respect and awe. We saw one of the awful reptiles strike his fangs into the jaw of an Indian boy, who kept right on dancing. One or two of the bucks also were bitten. They did not show any ill effects and were practically immune to the rattlesnake poison."

**Monster Rattler Fights.**

"I have seen Indian dances in New Mexico, but there is nothing to compare with the savage snake dance and its rattling thrills. At one time we were just a few inches away from a monster rattler who was being chased around by an Indian whose duty it was to pick up the reptile. We passed a bad quarter of a minute waiting for the Indian to take a good hold of the snake. The reptile fought viciously for several seconds, coiling and striking. It was a blood-curdling performance, but no one dared to interfere, of course, as the Indians would be much annoyed to see a paleface take a shot at one of their sacred snakes. The news of such a 'sacrilege' would undoubtedly reach the 'big snake' in the mountains and he would make the Indians pay dearly for wounding or killing one of his subjects."

**MUCH COPPER FOUND IN THE ARCTIC REGION**

Vast Deposits Are Discovered by the Stefansson Expedition Recently.

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 23.—The seven members of the party of Dr. Rudolph M. Anderson, commander of the southern branch of the Stefansson Canadian expedition into the far North, will leave Seattle, where they arrived this week for Ottawa in a few days to make reports to the Canadian government. They will report, Dr. Anderson said today, many interesting discoveries including findings of great quantities of copper, new species of small mammals and perhaps new species of flowers. Stefansson, it was reported, has believed to be continuing his investigation of the new island or continent which he discovered last year north of Prince Patrick Island.

Stefansson was set on accomplishing the northwest passage next spring and summer and ending his voyage by ascending the St. Lawrence river to Montreal.

**Vast Deposits of Copper.**

Discussing recently the work of his party, Dr. Anderson said:

"We were instructed to survey the copper deposits already known and seek new ones. Every explorer from the earliest times had noted that the Eskimos east of the Mackenzie used knives, spear heads and other weapons and utensils hammered from copper and the Coppermine river, which empties into the Arctic, got its name from mineral discovered many years ago. We found on Coronation Gulf and Bathurst Inlet vast deposits of copper of low grade. We were not equipped to undertake mining operations, but upon the sides of cliffs we could measure the depth of successive flows of amygdaloidal lava containing nuggets of copper. An Eskimo brought to us a lump of copper weighing forty pounds. There were seams in the lava that had been filled with pure copper. The ore had many of the characteristics of the Lake Superior copper rock. It is workable from the surface, and is near navigable water."

**Railroad Is Feasible.**

It would be feasible to construct a railroad from the Mackenzie river which is navigable five months of the year, to Great Bear Lake, which also is navigable much of the year. A further railroad line could be built from the lake to the copper fields, enabling the transportation of the ore to the interior of Canada by way of the Mackenzie river.

The Eskimos east of the Mackenzie are abandoning their copper and stone weapons and buying guns whenever they get a chance.

Caribou are plentiful on all the large islands. Walrus are seldom to be found on the shore of the mainland, but are abundant on banks and other islands. All the fresh water lakes in the north are well stocked with lake trout."

**CHARGED WITH ELOPING WITH HIS SISTER-IN-LAW**

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Sept. 23.—Charged with eloping with his wife's sister, who is married also, Dr. Jose A. Marta, a wealthy dentist of Ecuador, was arrested after a struggle with city detectives outside a lodging house in Germantown. The woman, Mrs. Julia Mupo, whose husband is a student at the University of Pennsylvania, was also captured.

Five cousins are involved in the case. All the persons are said to be wealthy South Americans.

When two detectives accosted Marta in front of the Germantown house, he made a movement as if to draw a gun. He was quickly overpowered and searched. The police say a revolver was found in one of his pockets.

## The Danger of Overeating

It is the Well-Balanced Man That Lasts the Longest and Does Best Work.

(From the Indianapolis News.)

Naturalists say that long ago the prehistoric waters were infested with a species of enormous shark which finally became extinct by reason of the workings of his voracious appetite. Thus nature eliminates the overfed.

The desire for ease of life and plentiful diet is universal and is the great stimulus of man and animals alike. When man becomes greedy and takes more ease and food and drink than his share nature discards him.

In the race for power and place for ease of circumstance and relief from the stimulus of hunger the modern man is apt to forget that unless he is careful of his body he will soon be made to suffer for the infraction of nature's inexorable law. With the loss in body tone comes an equal loss in mental activity, and the brain, which for a time was able to operate despite the complaints of an overfed, under-exercised, self-poisoned body, stops working.

Statisticians have discovered that the mortality rate of persons in the United States over forty-five years of age is increasing. Lack of health-giving exercise, superfluity of diet, lack of restoring sleep, over-stimulation, the high pressure of the race for power, wealth and position, plus physical neglect—these bring early death. The goal is reached, wealth is amassed, honor, position and power are just being grasped when the apple of accomplishment turns to ashes of dissolution. The brilliant mind becomes clouded, the steady hand is no longer accurate, the eye, which once gazed fearlessly on the whole world is dimmed, and it is not long before the final break-up occurs. All of this was entirely preventable.

Other things being equal, it is the man who leads the well-balanced life who lasts the longest, whose work to the end is uniformly the best, he who neither overworks nor overplays, neither overeats, overdrinks nor oversleeps, he who maintains a standard of simple healthy diet in moderation, who offsets mental work with physical recreation, who is as honest with his own body as he is with his own business. When success comes to such a man his physical and mental condition is such that he can enjoy in peace of mind and contentment of body the fruits of his labors.

The regulations of the United States Public Health Service states: "It is the duty of officers to maintain their physical as well as their professional fitness. To this end they shall be allowed time for recreation and study whenever their official duties will permit." If the government regards it as essential that its sanitary experts shall be safeguarded in this way, it is not equally important to every citizen that he similarly maintain a high standard of physical integrity?

## MEXICAN CROPS ARE ABUNDANT

And They Will Make It Unnecessary to Import Food-stuffs for the People.

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 23.—The production of food-stuffs in Mexico for the current year has obliterated any chance of shortage, according to the department of agriculture. The crops are said to be not only sufficient to prevent famine, but will make Mexico practically independent of importation of food-stuffs from other countries, although a certain amount of corn and flour will continue to be imported into the northern states from the United States because of superior facilities for transportation to those localities.

The crops, it is admitted, will not reach normal production, but will be sufficient to allow a certain amount of exportation. The question of food supply is one of distribution rather than production, and it will be necessary to transport to the more barren states products from these localities where normal or nearly normal crops prevail.

It is pointed out that while some undoubtedly died of starvation in the capital last year, this was due not to shortage of food, but to the impossibility of adequately transporting what was available.

**Regular Train Service.**

Within the last few months, according to the department officials, means of transportation have increased many fold. Regular train service has been resumed not only with the United States border but between interior points and railroads, which have been idle for an extended period have resumed operation.

The corn crop, the great Mexican food staple, will be good in all portions of the erubible except Zacatecas, Durango, Chihuahua and San Luis Potosi. In each of these states disturbed conditions have not only prevented planting, but have left the farmers with an inadequate supply of seed corn. In other states the corn crop has been excellent. The agricultural department also expects to add to the available supply a large amount of old corn hitherto held for large price advances.

**Bean Crop Is Good.**

The bean crop, according to department reports, while not a bumper crop, will be sufficient to permit the exportation of old beans, the embargo on foreign sale of which recently was removed by a decree of the first chief. In connection with the bean crop, officials of the department declare that the shortage of crops in Durango is due solely to the speculative operations of Pancho Villa in the last two years. When the Constitutionalist movement took form in 1913, the rich farmers abandoned their ranches and fled to Mexico City. The poor people who had worked on these properties, however, proceeded to raise a tremendous crop of beans which were stored throughout the state. Villa, it is said, found this supply and shipped it to the United States for sale at a profit enough for seed supply. It is estimated that he shipped over 1,500,000 bushels of beans and officials say the state has never recovered from the scarcity which resulted.

**Cotton Crop Smaller.**

The production of cotton, it is admitted by the department of agriculture, will fall fifty per cent below normal, but reports from the Laguna district as to the amount of water now in the streams, which in some seasons are entirely dry, indicates a full crop next year.

There is a great need among the farmers for new parts of the most simple types of agricultural machinery and the department of agriculture now is preparing a plan whereby such supplies as